MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON WATER SECTOR IN ARMENIA

Date: December 14, 2015
Location: “Regance” Hotel Complex, D. Anhaght Str. 10/1, Yerevan, 0014

Background: The meeting was chaired by the State Committee on Water Systems of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the status of NPD activities and recent developments in water sector of Armenia, as well as the progress in implementation of WFD principles in Armenia. The meeting also served as platform for establishing synergies with other international water projects implemented in Armenia.

AGENDA

09:00-09:30 Registration of participants

09:30-09:45 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Purpose of the meeting and adoption of the agenda - Mr. Volodya Narimanyan, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Water Systems, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia

Opening statements
- Mr. Aram Harutyunyan, Chairman, State Committee on Water Systems, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia
- Ms. Tatiana Efimova, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
- Mr. Peep Mardiste, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

09:45-10:00 Status of NPD Activities in Armenia

Status of NPD activities, progress in implementation of WFD principles in Armenia, update on the recent development in water sector of Armenia - Mr. Volodya Narimanyan

Reflections by members of the Steering Committee representing different agencies

10:00-11:30 Session 1 – UNECE/WHO Protocol on Water and Health in Armenia

1. Presentations

- International experience - Mr. Oliver Schmoll, WHO Regional Office for Europe
• Health component – Ms. Nune Bakuntz, National Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia
• Water supply and sanitation component – Ms. Armine Arushanyan, State Committee on Water Systems of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia
• Public participation – Ms. Emma Anakhasyan, “Armenian Women for Health and Health Environment” NGO

2. Policy discussion
3. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

11:30-12:00 Coffee Break

12:00-13:00 Session 2 – Economic and Financial Aspects of Water Sector Reforms in Armenia

1. Presentations
• Work on economic aspects of water management reform in Armenia – Ms. Tatiana Efimova, OECD
• Assessment of the Value of Water for the Different Economic and Environmental Uses in Armenia – Mr. Vahagn Tonoyan, water management expert

2. Policy Discussion
3. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session 3 – Synergies with other international projects implemented in Armenia

1. Presentations
• EU funded “Environmental Protection of International River Basins” Project: progress up to date, activities in the extension period and cooperation with the EUWI
• Japanese International Cooperation Agency funded project on reconstruction of Yeghvard Reservoir
• German KfW Bank funded project on construction of Kaps Reservoir and Gravity System
• French Development Agency funded project on Construction of Vedi Reservoir
• USAID funded “Advanced Science and Partnership for Integrated Resource Development” project

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-16:45 Session 4: Discussion of the next steps of the NPD in Armenia

1. Policy discussion
• Mandate for chairing of the National Policy Dialogue process in Armenia.
• Priorities of the National Policy Dialogue in 2016

2. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

16:45-17:00  Session 5 - Closure of the Meeting

Reflections by members of the Steering Committee representing different agencies.

Mr. Narimanyan to moderate the session and recall the decisions taken under previous agenda items.